

PATENT 3

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Brown et al.  
Application No.: 09/666,866  
Filed: September 20, 2000  
For: IMPROVED LONGITUDINALLY FLEXIBLE  
EXPANDABLE STENT  
Examiner: P. Prebilic  
Group Art Unit: 3738

Box: \_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Docket No.: S63.2-9397

## AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

This Amendment is in response to the Final Office Action mailed July 30, 2002.  
and is filed concurrently herewith a Request for Continuing Examination (RCE) in order to be  
considered.

Please amend the Application as follows:

In the claims:

- ✓ Please cancel claims 16-21, 23, 24, and 26-35 from the Application.
- ✓ Please add new claims 36-50.

36. (New) A stent comprising:  
a plurality of adjacent serpentine circumferential bands, each of the serpentine  
circumferential bands having a proximal end region and a distal end region, the proximal end  
region and the distal end region each having a plurality of end portions; and  
a plurality of connecting elements, each connecting element joining end portions  
of adjacent serpentine circumferential bands, wherein the end portions of the adjacent serpentine  
circumferential bands which are joined to one another are not longitudinally opposite one  
another, some of the serpentine bands having connecting elements extending from the proximal  
end region and the distal end region.